GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4321
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2001
PRIVATISATION OF ESI HOSPITALS
JASWANT SINGH YADAV;SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise some ESI hospitals in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of the employees availing the ESI facilities?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) to (c): The responsibility for administration of medical care under the ESI Scheme vests in the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations except in Delhi and NOIDA where it is being administered directly by the ESI Corporation.The ESIC has prescribed norms/guidelines for staffing and equipping of ESI hospitals/ dispensaries. The Corporation also meets inter alia 7/8th of the expenditure incurred on ESI medical care. In order to improve health care facilities in ESI hospitals/dispensaries, the ESIC has formulated an action plan and forwarded the same to the State Governments for implementation in consultation with the ESIC.The action plan includes inter-alia provision of modern equipment system in hospitals, supply of necessary basic equipments in dispensaries, establishment of regional trauma centres, super speciality services, blood banks, cancer treatment centres, development of indigenous system of medicines and development of tie-up arrangement with reputed medical institutions for super speciality treatment etc. A revolving fund has also been established at the level of Regional Directors of the ESI Corporation so as to facilitate prompt re-imbursement of medical costs incurred by the IPs on super speciality treatment. Recently, low bed occupancy in three ESI hospitals at Azadnagar, Sarvodayanagar and Kidwainagar, Kanpur has been reviewed by the ESI Corporation and it has been decided to explore various possibilities for optimum utilization of these hospitals.